

# October 19, 2017

SUBJECT	Action
BABY HYGIENE KIT PILOT PROGRAM	
Strategic Priority Area 1. Children and Families: Support children prenatal through age 5 and their families by providing culturally and linguistically effective resources, knowledge, and opportunities for them to develop the skills needed to achieve their optimal potential in school and life.	Information
<b>Goal 1.1. Child Health:</b> Children prenatal through age 5 and their families access the full spectrum of health and behavioral health services needed to enhance their well-being.	
Goal 1.3. Family and Community Support and Partnerships: Families and communities are engaged, supported, and strengthened through culturally effective resources and opportunities that assist them in nurturing, caring, and providing for their children's success and wellbeing.	
Strategic Priority Area 3. Public Will and Investment: Build public engagement in, investment in, and support of the optimal well-being and development of children prenatal through age 5, their families, and communities.	
<b>Goal 3.1. Communication:</b> Build public will and investing in early childhood by communicating the potential for positive outcomes for children and families, and the importance of prevention and early intervention.	

## **SUMMARY OF THE ISSUE**

Under the authority of the Executive Director, and in partnership with SupplyBank.Org, First 5 California will invest up to \$149,999 to support a six-month pilot for supplying "Baby Hygiene Kits" (Kits) to low-income families in six counties. As part of the October

2017 agenda, Benito Delgado-Olson, Executive Director of SupplyBank.Org, will present an overview of the pilot for the Commission.

#### RECOMMENDATION

This is an information-only item. First 5 California staff is not requesting action at this time.

### **BACKGROUND OF KEY ISSUES**

SupplyBank.Org is a 501(3)(c) non-profit organization, which began at UC Berkeley in 2009 as a regional effort to bring school supplies to tens of thousands of low-income children throughout the California Bay Area. SupplyBank.Org has a business model based on the modern food bank, including fulfillment and distribution centers for non-food materials throughout California. In response to a current statewide diaper hygiene problem, its pilot "Baby Hygiene Kit Program" will focus on providing diapers and other baby-related products to families in need.

SupplyBank.Org is launching a pilot program with several dozen local and state agencies to build a best practices model for the Baby Hygiene Kit Program. This program started in the fall of 2016 and distributes Kits throughout the state. Providing Kits to low-income and homeless families may reduce the number of serious health-related issues (such as diaper dermatitis, candidiasis, and urinary tract infections) in diaper age children.

As a state-agency partner, First 5 California will invest in a six-month pilot to supply Kits to low-income families in six counties. The Kit boxes, diapers, baby hygiene products, and other collateral materials will be customized with messaging and images from First 5 California's *Talk. Read. Sing.* campaign – all serving as reminders and prompts for parents and caregivers of young children to use every-day moments, like diaper changing time, to engage in positive verbal interactions that promote a baby's healthy brain growth.

#### **ATTACHMENT**

None.